Volume I, Section 1 - Document Standards

Overview

The Common Origination and Disbursement System (COD) Technical Reference includes both Full Participant and Phase-in Participant information. Beginning in the 2003-2004 award year, the information previously contained in the Federal Pell Grant Program Technical Reference and Direct Loan Technical Reference has been combined into the COD Technical Reference.

This combined technical reference contains message classes, edits, record layouts, implementation guides, and supporting information for COD Full Participants using the XML Common Record and Pell and Direct Loan Phase-In Participants using fixed-length, flat files.

How to Use This Technical Reference

The COD Technical Reference is an operational guide that informs schools, vendors, and third-party servicers of how to transmit Pell Grant and Direct Loan Origination and Disbursement data to the COD System. In particular, this Technical Reference provides the record layout and data elements that are required for the COD System to successfully process submitted records as well as the record layout and data elements for the receipts and responses that are returned to participants by the COD System. The information provided in this Technical Reference is not intended to reflect all Federal regulations that govern the Pell Grant and Direct Loan programs and with which all participants must comply. As such, schools, vendors, and third-party

servicers must refer to these regulations and documents such as the Federal Student Aid Handbook and Dear Colleague Letters for guidance on regulatory compliance.

The 2004-2005 COD Technical Reference is comprised of eight separate volumes that contain key 2004-2005 development information for both COD Full Participants and Phase-In Participants. To use the COD Technical Reference effectively, choose the appropriate volume for your needs. Each volume has its own table of contents and individual sections.

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Note: If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this document, please contact the COD School Relations Center at 1-800-4PGRANT for Pell Grants and 1-800-848-0978 for Direct Loans. Staff is available Monday through Friday, 8am-8pm Eastern Time. Or, please email COD Customer Service at codsupport@acs-inc.com.